Independent claim 30 has been canceled. Dependent claim 31 has been amended and changed into independent form. The pending claims are provided below for the convenience of the Examiner.

1.   A method of determining if the content of a source MPEG-2 stream, may be reduced, said method comprising the steps of:

a)   examining said source stream to determine if a sequence_display_extension follows the most recent sequence header and sequence extension;

b)   confirming that horizontal_size is greater than display_horizontal_size or that vertical_size is greater than display_vertical_size; and

c)   if steps a) and b) are met, reducing the content of said source stream to create a reformatted stream.

2.   The method of claim 1 where step c) comprises the steps of:

i)   calculating the values of: width_mb and height_mb;

ii)   calculating the values of: top, bottom, left and right;

iii)   calculating the values: of top_mb, bottom_mb, left_mb and right_mb;

iv)   substituting into said reformatted stream a portion of new_horizontal_size for horizontal_size and a portion of new_vertical_size for vertical_size; and

v)   substituting into said reformatted stream a portion of new_horizontal_size for horizontal_size extension and a portion of new_vertical_size for vertical_size extension.

3.   The method of claim 2 wherein the portion of step iv) is 12 bits.

4.   The method of claim 2 wherein the portion of step v) is 2 bits.

5.   The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of:

vi)   removing picture_display_extension data from said source stream when creating said reformatted stream,

6.   The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of:

vii)   removing macroblocks from said source stream if their horizontal position is less than left_mb or greater than right_mb or if their vertical position is less than top_mb or greater than bottom_mb, when creating said reformatted stream

7.   The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of:

viii)   removing slices from said source stream which contain no macroblocks, when creating said reformatted stream

8.   The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of:

ix)   subtracting the value of top_mb from each slice_start_code, if slice_start_code becomes less than one, then setting it to one, in said reformatted stream.

16.   A computer readable medium containing instructions for reducing the content of an MPEG-2 source stream, said instructions performing the steps of:

a)   examining said source stream to determine if a sequence_display_extension follows the most recent sequence header and sequence extension;

b)   confirming that horizontal_size is greater than display_horizontal_size or that vertical_size is greater than display_vertical_size; and

c)   if steps a) and b) are met, reducing the content of said source stream to create a reformatted stream.

17.   The medium of claim 16 wherein step c) comprises the steps of:

i)   calculating the values of: width_mb and height_mb;

ii)   calculating the values of: top, bottom, left and right;

iii)   calculating the values of top_mb, bottom_mb, left_mb and right_mb;

iv)   introducing into said reformatted stream a portion of new_horizontal_size for horizontal_size and a portion of new_vertical_size for vertical_size; and

v)   introducing into said reformatted stream a portion of new_horizontal_size for horizontal_size extension and a portion of new_vertical_size for vertical_size extension.

18.   The medium of claim 17 wherein the portion of step iv) is 12 bits.

19.   The medium of claim 18 wherein the portion of step v) is 2 bits.

20.   The medium of claim 19 further containing the step of:

vi)   in creating said reformatted stream, removing picture_display_extension data from said source stream.

21.   The medium of 20 further containing the step of:

vii)   in creating said reformatted stream, removing macroblocks from said source stream if their horizontal position is less than left_mb or greater than right_mb or if their vertical position is less than top_mb or greater than bottom_mb.

22.   The medium of claim 21 further containing the step of:

viii)   in creating said reformatted stream, removing slices from said source stream which contain no macroblocks.

23.   The medium of claim 22 further containing the step of:

ix)   subtracting the value of top_mb from each slice_start_code, if slice_start_code becomes less than one, then setting it to one, in said reformatted stream.

30.   (Canceled) A video transcoder, said transcoder including a pan-scan module.

31.   (Currently Amended) A video transcoder including a pan-scan module, the pan-scan module configured to perform the following steps:The transcoder of claim 30 wherein said pan-scan module performs the following steps:

a)   examining a source video stream to determine if a sequence_display_extension follows the most recent sequence header and sequence extension;

b)   confirming that horizontal_size is greater than display_horizontal_size or that vertical_size is greater than display_vertical_size; and

c)   if steps a) and b) are met, reducing the content of said source stream to create a reformatted stream.

32.   The transcoder of claim 31 where step c) comprises the steps of:
i)   calculating the values of: width_mb and height_mb;
ii)   calculating the values of: top, bottom, left and right;
iii)   calculating the values: of top_mb, bottom_mb, left_mb and right_mb;

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iv)   substituting into said reformatted stream a portion of new_horizontal_size for horizontal_size and a portion of new_vertical_size for vertical_size; and

v)   substituting into said reformatted stream a portion of new_horizontal_size for horizontal_size extension and a portion of new_vertical_size for vertical_size extension.

33.   The transcoder of claim 32 wherein the portion of step iv) is 12 bits.

34.   The transcoder of claim 32 wherein the portion of step v) is 2 bits.

35.   The transcoder of claim 32 wherein said pan-scan module performs the additional step of:

vi)   removing picture_display_extension data from said source stream when creating said reformatted stream,

36.   The transcoder of claim 35 wherein said pan-scan module performs the additional step of:

vii)   removing macroblocks from said source stream if their horizontal position is less than left_mb or greater than right_mb or if their vertical position is less than top_mb or greater than bottom_mb, when creating said reformatted stream

37.   The transcoder of claim 36 wherein said pan-scan module performs the additional step of:

viii)   removing slices from said source stream which contain no macroblocks, when creating said reformatted stream

38.   The transcoder of claim 37 wherein said pan-scan module performs the additional step of:

ix)   subtracting the value of top_mb from each slice_start_code, if slice_start_code becomes less than one, then setting it to one, in said reformatted stream.